

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR

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Governor Ehrlich Accepts Colonel Norris' Resignation, Names Hutchins Acting State Police Superintendent

ANNAPOLIS – Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. today reluctantly accepted, subject to reinstatement, the resignation of Colonel Edward T. Norris as Superintendent of the Maryland State Police due to the circumstances related to his tenure as Baltimore City Police Commissioner. In addition, Governor Ehrlich named the Honorable Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins, a former state trooper, former state delegate, and current Secretary of Maryland Veterans Affairs, Acting Superintendent of the State Police.

"Secretary Hutchins brings an impeccable record of public service to the Maryland State Police," said Governor Ehrlich. "As a Vietnam Veteran, former state police officer, and former member of the Maryland House of Delegates, he is eminently qualified to lead our troopers in our efforts to make Maryland a safer place. For the past year, I have counted Tim as an invaluable member of my cabinet. Today, I have asked him to continue in that role as Acting Superintendent of the State Police."

Governor Ehrlich named Hutchins Secretary of Veterans Affairs in Maryland in February 2003. He previously served two terms in the Maryland House of Delegates representing District 28 in Charles County. He served as a Maryland State Trooper from 1973 to 1994. Hutchins also served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1967. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement from the University of Maryland in 1981.

"Today I reluctantly accepted Colonel Norris' resignation as State Police Superintendent, subject to reinstatement," Governor Ehrlich continued. "Maryland is a safer place today because of Colonel Norris' performance as superintendent. Under his leadership in the past eleven months, criminal arrests are up 12 percent, drug arrests are up 25 percent, traffic stops are up 28 percent, criminal gun seizures are up seven percent and drunk driving arrests are up three percent, all of which contribute to safer highways and communities in Maryland."